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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SAUDIS PREPARE FOR OPEC CONFERENCE

A THIRD-COUNTRY DIPLOMAT TOLD EMBASSY JIDDA THAT SAUDI PETROLEUM MINISTER YAMANI BELIEVES OPEC NO LONGER MATTERS AS A PRICE-SETTING INSTRUMENT, SINCE PETROLEUM PRICES ARE ONCE AGAIN BEING DETERMINED BY SUPPLY AND DEMAND. THE SOURCE ADDED THAT YAMANI IS CURRENTLY ASSESSING THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF A PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASE ON WESTERN ECONOMIES IN PREPARATION FOR THE OPENING OF THE OPEC MEETING IN DECEMBER. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 7371, 11/9.

2. FRANCE: SRV DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

RELUCTANTLY DISCUSSING THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT OF
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VIETNAMESE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER THACH, A QUAI OFFICIAL

TOLD EMBASSY PARIS THAT THACH HAD:

--SHOWN HIS GOVERNMENT WELL DISPOSED TOWARD FRANCE
AND READY FOR CLOSER AND MORE EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION
IN THE FUTURE;

--MADE IT CLEAR THAT VIETNAM IS PREPARED TO BE
FLEXIBLE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE US AND IS FAR
MORE INTERESTED IN SUBSTANCE (ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE)
THAN FORM; AND

--EXPRESSED LITTLE CONCERN ABOUT THE MAJOR CHANGES
IN CHINA, BUT EVIDENCED WORRY ABOUT EVENTS IN
THAILAND.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE FRENCH, WHO CHARACTERIZED THE
VIETNAMESE AS ILL-AT-EASE IN DISCUSSING POLITICS WITH A
CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT, WERE ANXIOUS THAT NOTHING SHOULD
GET BACK TO THE VIETNAMESE WHICH MIGHT PREJUDICE WHAT
THEY CONSIDERED TO BE A FAVORABLY DEVELOPING RELATION-
SHIP. (CONFIDENTIAL) PARIS 33272, 11/9.

3. SUAREZ GOVERNMENT COLD SHOULDERS THE POPULAR
ALLIANCE

COMMENTING ON THE GOVERNMENT'S REFORM MOVEMENT, LABOR
MINISTER DE LA MATA TOLD AMBASSADOR STABLER:

--A CENTRIST ELECTORAL COALITION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY
EMERGE, RESTRAINING THE AMBITIONS OF THE POPULAR
ALLIANCE.

--THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO GIVE NOTHING TO
THE ALLIANCE ON MAJOR ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ON
PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE NEW LOWER
HOUSE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT PROBABLY DECIDED TO
STICK WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION TO REDUCE THE
CHANCE OF AN ELECTION OUTCOME THAT COULD PUT THE
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ALLIANCE IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT IN THE NEW CORTES.
(CONFIDENTIAL) MADRID 8532, 11/10.

4. CYPRUS: MAKARIOS STALLS, TURKS PREPARE FOR US/EC
INITIATIVE

EMBASSY NICOSIA HAS LEARNED THAT THE RECENT DELUGE OF
CONGRATULATIONS IT HAS RECEIVED ON THE OUTCOME OF THE

US ELECTION IS A CAMPAIGN MOUNTED BY THE ARCHBISHOP, WHO HOPES TO BUILD A POPULAR BASE FOR DEFLECTING ANY INITIATIVE FROM THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION BY FOCUSING PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS ON THE NEW ONE. THE EMBASSY EXPECTS MAKARIOS TO TEMPORIZE ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM UNTIL HE HAS ASSESSED THE POST-INAUGURAL SITUATION.

ANALYZING EVENTS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BORDER, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE NOVEMBER 5 ADOPTION BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF ITS OWN "CYPRUS PRINCIPLES" IS AN EFFORT TO STAKE OUT A POSITION FROM WHICH TO REACT TO THE US/EC-9 PRINCIPLES ONCE THESE ARE PRESENTED. (CONFIDENTIAL) (EXDIS) NICOSIA 3552, 11/10.

5. CZECHS DISPLAY GOOD WILL TO RUSSIANS

EMBASSY PRAGUE REPORTS THE CZECHS WENT ALL OUT TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE SOVIETS DURING THE RECENT OCTOBER REVOLUTION CELEBRATIONS. KEYNOTING A CONGRESSIONAL PALACE ASSEMBLY, CZECH UNIONS LEADER HOFFMAN QUOTED BREZHNEV IN PRAISING PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM. THE CZECH MEDIA WERE OVERWHELMINGLY DEVOTED TO CELEBRATION OF THE EVENT, AND THE SOVIET NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION PROVED A MAJOR POLITICAL AFFAIR WHICH TIED UP TRAFFIC FOR BLOCKS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE PERIOD OF CZECH ELECTIONS AND THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION CEREMONIES PROVIDED AN OCCASION FOR THE CZECH LEADERSHIP TO REAFFIRM ITS POSITION AND RE-EMPHASIZE CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S CLOSE TIES WITH MOSCOW. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) PRAGUE 3252 11/10.

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6. US-PERUVIAN RELATIONS LOOKING UP

IN AN ASSESSMENT OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY LIMA CONCLUDES THAT POLICY CHANGES HAVE BEEN FAVORABLE TO THE US AND ARE CONDUCIVE TO FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO THE EMBASSY, THE GOVERNMENT HAS STRIVEN TO:

--REVERSE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC TRENDS BY DEVALUATION, RATIONAL PRICING OF CONSUMER GOODS, AND COMPENSATION OF MARCONA;

--LESSEN LEFTIST INFLUENCE IN THE COUNTRY BY CEASING ATTACKS ON THE US AND MOVING AGAINST COMMUNISTS; AND

--REMOVE ITSELF FROM THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND CONCENTRATE ON NORTH-
SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES.

THE EMBASSY CONCLUDES THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, PERUVIAN
ARMS PURCHASES AND ILLEGAL NARCOTICS TRAFFIC MAY CAUSE
FRICTION IN FUTURE US/PERUVIAN RELATIONS AND THAT,
ALTHOUGH US INFLUENCE HAS INCREASED, DOMESTIC IMPERA-
TIVES WILL CONTINUE TO DETERMINE POLICY DECISIONS.
(CONFIDENTIAL) LIMA 10217, 11/9. KISSINGER

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